

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs of the specification as follows:

[0002] This application is also related to ~~a Continuation in Part of~~ U.S. Patent Application 09/_____09/810,148, entitled "System and Method for Discovering Information Objects and Information Object Repositories in Computer Networks", filed March 15, 2001.

[0053] In one embodiment of the present invention, a Web router is contacted according to a scheme for enabling the discovery of the caches and servers storing information objects distributed over computer networks, which can be implemented in hardware and/or software, by a client, a Web server, a Web cache, or another type of server with a request for the address of one or more Web caches that a client should contact to obtain an information object. Further descriptions of these various schemes are presented below. A complete description of a Web router is included in co-pending U.S. Patent Application 09/_____09/810,148, entitled "System and Method for Discovering Information Objects and Information Object Repositories in Computer Networks", filed March 15, 2001 the complete disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein.

[0062] To reduce communication and processing overhead in Web routers, a topology of Web routers is defined, such that a given Web router has as its neighbor Web routers a subset of all the Web routers in the system (where the term system refers to all or a portion of the virtual network for Web routers discussed above). A Web router may thus be configured with its set of neighbor Web routers. Such a configuration may be a table of neighbor Web routers which is defined by a network service provider and/or is

dynamically updated. In another embodiment of the present invention, a Web router dynamically selects the set of neighbor Web routers with which it should communicate out of all of the Web routers in the system. A Web router preferably communicates with its neighbor Web routers only and uses the Web Information Locator by Distance (WILD) protocol for this purpose. The WILD protocol is disclosed in co-pending and commonly-owned U.S. Provisional Application No.60/200,401, filed April 28, 2000, now U.S. Patent Application 09/____09/810,148, filed March 15, 2001.

[0071] In a further embodiment, one of the following four mechanisms, or, a combination of some of the following four mechanisms, is or may be used to communicate the best Web cache or content server, or the set of Web caches (more generally the information object repository(ies)), which should serve a client's request:

- (1) direct cache selection;
- (2) redirect cache selection;
- (3) remote DNS cache selection; and
- (4) client DNS cache selection.

These approaches are described in detail in co-pending U.S. Provisional Patent Application No.60/200,404, entitled "System and Method for Using a Mapping Between Client Addresses and Addresses of Caches to Support Content Delivery", filed April 28, 2000, and U.S. Patent Application _____09/843,789, entitled "System and Method for Using a Mapping Between Client Addresses and Addresses of Caches to Support Content Delivery", filed _____April 26, 2001, ~~the complete disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.~~

[0080] A system and method for using network layer URL routing to locate the closest server carrying specific content (network-level routing of URLs) is disclosed in co-pending and commonly-owned U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/200,402, filed April 28, 2000, and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/844,856, entitled "System and Method for Using Network Layer Uniform Resource Locator Routing to Locate the Closest Server Carrying Specific Content", filed April 26, 2001,~~which is incorporated herein by~~ reference.

[0081] With the route to the anycast cache server existing in the network infrastructure, a cache server processing a cache miss would like to transfer the content from the URL IP address. In an exemplary embodiment, in such a situation, the present invention resolves the anycast address to the server's real unicast address (which, by definition, uniquely identifies that server in the internet) before starting the download. In an exemplary embodiment, this is done by using an anycast address resolution protocol (AARP), which is disclosed in co-pending and commonly-owned U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/200,403, filed April 28, 2000,~~which is incorporated herein by~~ reference.